

**ALASKA DEPARTMENT OF FISH AND GAME  
DIVISION OF COMMERCIAL FISHERIES  
NEWS RELEASE**



*Cora Campbell, Commissioner  
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P.O. Box 1148  
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**2013 Kotzebue News Release #30  
KOTZEBUE COMMERCIAL SALMON FISHING OPENING**

Commercial salmon fishing will be open for 4 hours from 5 p.m. until 9 p.m. Thursday, August 15 in the Kotzebue District.

Catch during Wednesday night's 4-hour opening was 12,057 chum salmon by 44 permit holders. The commercial harvest to date is over 242,000 chum salmon and will easily exceed the department forecast range of 225,000 to 250,000 chum salmon.

Commercial catches this week have been the best in the 2000s for mid-August. The record catch in the 2000s was in 2010 when 270,343 chum salmon were harvested and that year likewise had late run strength.

Kobuk River test fish catch index ranks second best in the 21-year project history, but at this time, projections show this year's catch index will surpass the record test fish catch of 1996.

Continuing with short duration commercial fishing periods should not jeopardize subsistence opportunity or escapement.

If you have any questions concerning the fishery you can call the Kotzebue office at 442-3420, or the Commercial Fisheries office in Nome at 1-800-560-2271 or the buyer at 442-4192.